

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 724

By Johnson C

A RESOLUTION to recognize Mayor Jim Durrett for his service to Montgomery County.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Jim Durrett has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to his community throughout his exemplary tenure as mayor of Montgomery County; and

WHEREAS, Jim Durrett was born and raised in Montgomery County, where he currently lives with his wife, Mary; they are the proud parents of Jimmy, Thomas, and Paulina and the loving grandparents of Thomas, Reese, Walker, and Abel, with another on the way; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Durrett grew up in a family of public servants; his father, Bobby Durrett, served on the Clarksville City Council for twenty-six years, and his mother, Robin Durrett, worked the polls during every election; and

WHEREAS, beginning his work for the city of Clarksville at a young age, Jim Durrett spent the summers shoveling asphalt while attending Clarksville High School; he went on to attend the University of Tennessee and Austin Peay State University before returning to work full time for the city of Clarksville; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Durrett served as director of streets for twenty years and ended a thirty-one-year career in local government as chief of staff for the City of Clarksville; he served as vice president of business development for a local bank before he was elected as Montgomery County mayor in 2014; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Durrett has a long history of community involvement, having served as president of the Downtown Kiwanis Club, president of Leadership Clarksville, chairman of the board of trustees of the Customs House Museum, president of Tennessee Public Works Association, which named him Public Works Person of the Year for the State of Tennessee, chair of the Clarksville Chamber of Commerce and Military Affairs Committee, and a member of the Clarksville Montgomery County Community Health Foundation and Workforce Essential Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, in honor of his service to his community, Mayor Durrett has received the 2017 Army Community Partnership Award, the 2018 Governor's Environmental Stewardship Award, and the 2019 Tennessee Emergency Medical Services Advocacy Award; and

WHEREAS, one achievement Mayor Durrett is especially proud of is a Fort Campbell listening session he organized to help minimize the effects of military sequestration, an effort that resulted in Montgomery County being one of only seven army communities worldwide to be recognized in Washington, D.C., by the U.S. Army with an Army Community Partnership Award; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career in public service, Mayor Durrett has assisted in the development of the Downtown Commons, secured support and funding for a multi-purpose event center in downtown Clarksville, established a path to fund current and future school construction, assisted in the creation of the Wade Bourne Nature Center at Rotary Park, and helped with upgrades to many Montgomery County Parks and Recreation facilities; and

WHEREAS, to bring more jobs and opportunities to his community, Mayor Durrett has worked closely with the IDB and EDC to help bring Hankook, Google, LG, Amazon, Shinhung, and Pantos manufacturing companies to Montgomery County, and he has been influential in leading the charge to revitalize downtown Clarksville; and

WHEREAS, throughout his laudable career, Mayor Durrett has formed partnerships with the Fort Campbell U.S. Army Base, Austin Peay State University, the Clarksville Montgomery County School System, and many local businesses, civic organizations, and communities; and

WHEREAS, in his free time, Mayor Durrett enjoys spending time with his family and friends, hunting wild game, and fishing; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Jim Durrett is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we commend Mayor Jim Durrett for his honorable and astute service as mayor of Montgomery County and extend to him our best wishes for every continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.